



Fleet and Industrial Supply Center - Norfolk, Virginia

# Supply Chest

May 27, 2005

Ready - Resourceful - Responsive!

Vol. 57 No. 9

## Navy customs inspectors in Kuwait serve 100,000

*By Journalist Seaman Joseph Ebalo  
Commander, U.S. Naval Forces Central  
Command/Commander, U.S. 5th Fleet  
Public Affairs*

U.S. Navy customs agents assigned to Navy Expeditionary Logistics Support Forward Oscar (NAVELSF FWD OSCAR), Bravo Company, tripled the volume of inspections by previous commands by inspecting their 100,000th service member at Camp Doha, Kuwait, May 15.

Members of NAVELSF FWD OSCAR, a command made up of about 400 Navy Reservists, volunteered to support the Navy and the U.S. Customs Department by conducting inspections of equipment, supplies, and Department of Defense personnel serving in Iraq and Kuwait.

"The mission of NAVELSF FWD OSCAR is to protect our homeland from foreign contaminants like bugs, soil and plants, and illegal materials like weapons and contraband," said Senior Chief Storekeeper Sharon Leslie, passenger processing center supervisor. "Our job is very important, because we want to prevent any diseases or bacteria in the Middle East from spreading to the U.S."

Marine Cpl. Rudolph Roberson Jr., sup-

*continued on page 4*



Storekeeper 2nd Class Ray Hurdle, a Customs Agent with Naval Expeditionary Logistics Support Force Forward Oscar (NAVELSF FWD OSCAR), Bravo Company, searches a service member's personal bag as part of a customs inspection. NAVELSF FWD OSCAR Bravo Company Sailors passed a milestone by searching their 100,000th service member at Camp Doha, Kuwait. The Sailors conduct searches of all U.S. armed forces personnel and civilian workers departing Iraq and Kuwait for the United States. Bravo company has more than 180 Sailors certified as customs boarder clearance agents to conduct searches of personnel traveling home on leave, re-deploying to a different region, or permanently transferring stateside. U.S. Navy photo by Journalist Seaman Joseph Ebalo



## RFID demo at CEP-201

Dana Arnold, chief of staff of the Environmental Affairs office, Environmental Protection Agency, is given an in depth demonstration of the Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) operation at Building CEP-201, FISC Norfolk, Ocean Terminal. David Cass (back to camera) explains how the RFID antenna (two square white objects to his right) work to Ms. Arnold and Bill Andrews of FISC Norfolk. The RFID system is used to improve accuracy and efficiency of the processing of inbound and outbound shipments at CEP-201.

## From the Executive Director...FISC Norfolk Mentoring Program

**F**ISC Norfolk is about to start with a third group of participants in the Mentoring program. Mentoring is a *vital* part of our command's career development and, in the broadest sense; it encompasses as well as elicits the sharing of a wide range of logistics experience and expertise that, in the final analysis, promotes career planning and job enrichment. Mentorship also releases the energy and talent in people. It is also the link between the employee and experienced professional for personal and career development.

Our Command is actively engaged, via its mentoring program, to prepare our employees for management and leadership positions. This program also improves our stated goal of realizing continuing diversity at all management levels and, concomitantly, strengthens our organizational culture. Thus, mentoring is a powerful form of human development and provides personal satisfaction in knowing that mentors are helping others through eliciting from Mentees increased motivation and commitment to our supply chain management mission. It also gives all participants opportunities to realize self-reflection and renewal.

Therefore, since a successful Mentoring program develops employee independence, improves employee productivity, and increases the employee's commitment to the organization, we are planning to again provide to the prospective mentor and the mentee a four-hour training session in June, tentatively scheduled for Thursday, June 16 from 8:30-12:30, on the phases of mentoring that builds expectations and defines responsibilities.

Are you interested and available to be a Mentor or Mentee? Are you prepared to invest the time in helping, teaching, coaching and supporting the career development and personal growth of others? Are you prepared to invest the personal time in self-development and working closely with a Mentor? If the answer to these questions is a resounding "yes," please contact Susan Thornes at 757-443-1728, [susan.thornes@navy.mil](mailto:susan.thornes@navy.mil) or George Krakowski, 757-443-1899, [george.krakowski@navy.mil](mailto:george.krakowski@navy.mil).



*Sidnia B. Etherington*

## Supply Chest

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# Hurricane season 2005 is upon us - are you prepared?

The Hampton Roads hurricane season runs from June 1 to November 30. The National Hurricane Center is forecasting this to be an active year for hurricanes. To ensure preparedness should a storm strike, military members and their families should begin hurricane preparations now. Two of the most important preparations are putting together a survival kit and developing an evacuation plan.

Low lying coastal areas, such as Hampton Roads and Northeastern North Carolina, are particularly vulnerable to destruction from hurricanes and other severe weather. As hurricane Isabel demonstrated, water and electricity may be off for several weeks following a storm. Banks, stores, gas stations, medical facilities, and other activities may also be closed for an extended period of time. Preparing now to be self sufficient in the event of a hurricane or severe storm is the best way to avoid problems and minimize the impact of a hurricane. When a hurricane approaches, ships in port may be ordered to sortie and aircraft may evacuate. This will leave final hurricane preparations to family members, roommates, or friends left behind. It is important that personnel assigned to ships and aircraft squadrons plan well ahead.

When a hurricane watch is issued, monitor radio and television reports regularly. The intensity and track of tropical storms and hurricanes can change quickly. Many media outlets offer free tracking charts and preparedness guidelines. Now is the time to get one, read it, and then use it when a storm approaches.

## **Prepare for high winds and possible flooding:**

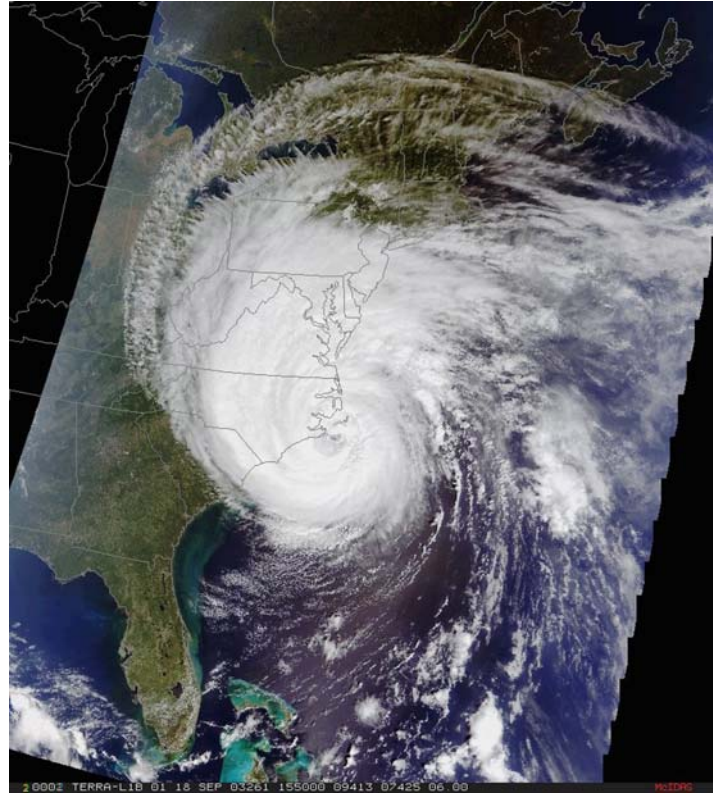
A. If living in a mobile home, check tie downs and take refuge in a safer place. Mobile homes do not provide a safe refuge in hurricane force winds.

B. Move items indoors that can become airborne in strong winds and cause injury and damage as deadly missile hazards (garbage cans, lawn furniture, garden equipment, toys, etc.). Items too heavy to move should be tied down. Lower antennas, brace garage doors and board up or close shutters on glass doors and windows.

C. Move trailered boats close to the house and fill them with water for added weight. Secure trailers by anchoring them to the ground, tree or some other stationary object. If boats are in the water, additional mooring lines and bumpers should be added to minimize damage from winds. Sufficient slack must be maintained in mooring lines to allow for storm surge.

If ordered to leave the area, do so immediately. Whether going to a shelter or evacuating the area, ensure your vehicle has a full tank of gas, necessary maps and emergency survival items. If necessary, make arrangements to travel with someone else. Protect important papers (drivers's license or other identification, cash, insurance papers, birth certificates, shot records, visas, property inventory, etc.) By placing them in ziploc bags and taking them with you. Remember to take medical alert information, prescriptions (refill if necessary), eyeglasses, and hearing aids with extra batteries. Survival kits should contain canned foods, dried provisions, utensils, can opener, bottled water, first aid kit, flashlight and battery powered radio with extra batteries, sleeping bags, blankets, pillows, infant needs, and hand tools. Shelters do not allow pets, alcoholic beverages or weapons. When leaving your home remember to lock windows and doors, and turn off water, gas and electricity.

If you choose to remain at home, store drinking water in sani-



*Hurricane Isabel (above) devastated the Hampton Roads area in September, 2003. While you can't stop a hurricane from impacting our area, you can make sure you and your family are prepared for the next "big one." There is still time to prepare, as most of the tropical activity in our area doesn't start until August, but don't delay, start today.*

tized containers. Fill bathtubs and larger containers for cleaning and bathing. Unplug appliances with the exception of the refrigerator, set it on maximum cold and if power is lost only open when necessary. Seek shelter in an interior room away from doors and windows on the lowest floor level. Avoid the temptation to go outside during the brief calm when the eye of the storm passes over. Do not go outside during the storm for any reason. Getting seriously injured or killed trying to secure an item that has broken free is not worth it.

After the storm passes, beware of outdoor hazards such as downed power lines, weakened roads and bridge structures, debris in streets, snakes, insects and displaced wildlife. Do not drink or prepare food directly with tap water until health officials indicate it is safe to do so. If returning from out of the area, remember that gas may not be readily available. Call ahead to get road conditions and to determine the availability of services. It may be best to wait a day or two to allow emergency personnel and clean-up crews to start to restore conditions to normal.

Waiting to prepare until just before a storm arrives can result in panic, contribute to property damage, and possible injury or loss of life. Prepare now, the COMNAVREG MIDLANT Emergency Management Division offers hurricane and tornado preparedness classes. To schedule training or for additional assistance, call 322-2859.

## Customs from page 1

ply noncommissioned officer-in-charge, Charlie Company, 103rd Engineering Battalion, was the 100,000th customer served by Bravo Company.

Roberson, a former Navy quartermaster, received a backpack from NAVELSF FWD OSCAR Bravo Company senior enlisted personnel filled with command coins, gift certificates, candy and other goodies.

"I was really surprised to receive this honor," said Roberson. "I feel like, on top of being able to go home to Philadelphia to see my wife Ja-net and my daughter Jazmin, I won a great prize," he said.

According to Leslie, in one four month period, U.S. Navy Customs agents accounted for nearly six times the overall inspections conducted on service members preparing to re-deploy.

Bravo company has more than 180 Sailors certified as customs boarder clearance agents (CBCA) to conduct searches of personnel traveling home on leave, re-deploying to a different region, or transferring state-side.

"We have to go through every piece of luggage to make sure our job is being done right," said Quartermaster 1st Class Robert Travis, CBCA, NAVELSF Forward Oscar, Bravo company. "That means using a computer to check out all unmarked or suspicious compact discs, searching shampoo and toothpaste containers for hidden contraband, and emptying out all pockets of every clothing item, including uniforms," said Travis.

In addition to Camp Doha, NAVELSF FWD OSCAR Sailors are forward deployed to Bellad, Iraq; Kuwait Naval Base; Camp Arifjan, Kuwait; and Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait.

NAVELSF Bravo Company Sailors say they stay focused on their mission of helping service members and protecting their homeland.

"We have a great job, because we get to see troops happy and on their way home to their families," said Fire Controlman 2nd Class Jeffrey Oberts, CBCA, NAVELSF Bravo Company. "There is a huge sense of pride in being part of the process that gets our people home."

*Editor's note: some of the members of NAVELSF FWD OSCAR hail from FISC Norfolk Reserve units.*

## 10th Annual NAVSUP "Academy" Focuses on Transformation

More than 60 employees from activities across the Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) gathered April 26-28 for the 2005 NAVSUP Transformation Academy held at the Naval Support Activity in Mechanicsburg, Pa.

The annual three-day event historically affords NAVSUP civilian and military employees an opportunity to learn more about the NAVSUP "combat capability through logistics" mission and how it supports the Navy's global supply chain and our war fighters.

Started in 1995 and formerly known as the "NAVSUP Academy", this year the name was changed to better reflect the enterprise's ongoing transformation efforts. A large contingent of employees who are enrolled in NAVSUP's Corporate Management Development Program (CMDP) was also on hand.

"This year we wanted to preserve the spirit of the Academy and broaden the scope to address our current Transformation initiatives," said Capt. Charles Lilli, USN, SC, NAVSUP's Chief of Staff.

Presentations were given by NAVSUP senior military and civilian leaders representing all of the enterprise's commands including: Headquarters, Fleet and Industrial Supply Centers, Naval Inventory Control Point, Navy Supply Information Systems Activity, Navy Exchange Service Command, and Naval Operational Logistics Support Center.

One of the presentations was an overview of NAVSUP's Commander, Fleet and Industrial Supply Centers (COMFISCS) organization given by Elliot Fields, SES, COMFISCS' Executive Director.

"Make no mistake, we are in the business of warfighting, and warfighting is a business. We must operate as businesses do by being conscious of operating costs and the bottom line. It's important for NAVSUP Academy participants to begin to look for ways to deliver cost-wise logistics support to the warfighter," Fields told the students.

In his brief, NAVSUP's acting Comptroller, Capt. Steven Nagorzanski, SC, USN, echoed Fields' sentiments and stressed the important role that all NAVSUP employees



*Discussing Lean Six Sigma at an Information Exchange held recently during the NAVSUP Transformation Academy was, from left, Bill Zdankiewicz of Navy Supply Information Systems Activity; CAPT Paul Talwar, Commanding Officer, Navy Supply Information Systems Activity; Steve Slocomb, Assistant Deputy Commander for Corporate Operations; and Mike Randazzo, of Naval Supply Systems Command Office of Corporate Communications.*

play in creating a cost-savvy organization. "A culture of efficiency begins with all of us."

Students thought that the guest speakers were extremely knowledgeable and provided relevant information about the NAVSUP enterprise.

"The Transformation Academy provided a well-organized overall perspective of the NAVSUP enterprise," said Troy L. High, Security Director/Chief of Police for the Naval Support Activity.

"The training I received at the Academy was the best government-provided training that I have received in my government career," added Pete DiRocco, Supply Systems Analyst with the Naval Inventory Control Point.

Both DiRocco and High are CMDP participants.

At the end of the second day, an information exchange provided a forum for two-way communication on major change initiatives such as Enterprise Resource Planning, the National Security Performance System, Base Realignment and Closure, and

*continued on next page*

## From the Fleet ... The critical days of Summer

By *FLTCM(AW/SW) Jon R. Thompson*

In less than a week the Navy enters the Critical Days of Summer. From Memorial Day to Labor Day, the Navy incurs more off-duty mishaps and traffic deaths than it does the entire rest of the year. The most alarming fact is that 100-percent of the mishaps and deaths are preventable. Hence, I would like to discuss with you how devastating this period is to our overall readiness, in addition to the huge emotional toll on the families and friends of those who know and serve with those who become statistics.

In fiscal year 2004, 119 Sailors and Marines died in motor vehicle crashes and another 32 died in off-duty/recreational incidents. That's 151 Sailors and Marines that died unnecessarily because of poor judgment!

This summer, the Navy has three specific goals that depend on your commitment: To raise awareness, to teach skills and behavior that result in mishap reduction, and to provide alternatives to high-risk behavior. The goals look great on paper, but for the Navy to achieve them, each and every one of you needs to cooperate and understand the decisions you make on a daily basis, on and off duty, will ultimately dictate how well we do...and whether or not you enjoy your summer in the sun or in the hospital.

As we enter summer, most of you will be spending more time outside and enjoying the nicer weather. The days are longer, everyone seems to be in a better mood, and there's a more carefree attitude that accompanies the summer months.

The summer months also see more Navy people transfer than any other time of the year and the summer months are prime vacation months. Because of this, more Sailors are on the highways, making long trips, than at any other time of the year. Unfortunately, the longer days, warm weather and increased travel bring with it dangers that, if not understood, have the potential of ruining your (or your family's) summer.

While most look forward to summer, I know only too well that many of you think you're invincible. You think accidents only happen to other people and that you think combining alcohol and driving isn't as bad as others say it is. The problem is I know you're wrong...dead wrong. The most dis-

treassing part of my job is hearing about Sailors who lose their lives because they were careless.

Shipmates, do your shipmates, your family, yourself, and me a favor. Make a commitment to be safe this summer. When you consider how most of our accidents and deaths occur, it's not hard to realize how to overcome the risks. Here are a few quick tips to avoid the top hazards:

- Never combine alcohol and driving, not a car, a boat, a jet ski, a motorcycle, nothing.

- Always wear your seatbelts! Make sure all others in your vehicle wear theirs as well.

- SLOW DOWN! Obey the speed limit. Excessive speed kills, it's that simple. If you plan accordingly, you won't need to be in such a hurry.

- If you're going to take a trip, get plenty of rest and limit your mileage to about 500 miles in a single day. If you feel drowsy, stop and get some rest. If you are traveling with a spouse or friend, share the driving.

- If you're going to swim, ensure you have a buddy. I'm always amazed how many Sailors drown each year. I often wonder where his or her friend was when they entered the water?

Of course, not all Sailors die on the highways or out on the water. We also lose Sailors in off-duty mishaps that are not as statistically significant. Sailors have died falling off roofs. Sailors have also shot themselves, lost limbs in power tools, died because of electrocution, and probably many other means that could only be described as reckless and careless.

Summer is a wonderful time of year. However, if you're young, you're more at risk than you might believe. In fiscal year 2004, 43 percent of all recreational mishaps happened to Sailors between the ages of 18 and 22. Additionally, 19 percent of the fatalities occurred while riding ATVs/off-road motorcycles, and 14 percent were due to drowning. Oh, and age isn't the only prime factor. More than 65 percent of all our fatalities happen at night, particularly on weekends. If you think alcohol is a prime factor in most accidents and fatalities, you're right. I've personally found that alcohol (in moderation) is only good when mixed with good food...nothing else.

My final challenge to each of you as you head into summer is to look out for each other



*FLTCM(AW/SW) Jon R. Thompson*

and your families. All of us have made dumb decisions, but how many times have you changed your mind about something because a family member or friend told you, 'hey, that's pretty stupid, I don't think you should do that.' Advice like that is priceless! The difficult part is heeding the advice.

A note to supervisors: You have a responsibility to personally counsel your Sailors on how to be safe in off-duty activities. Talk with your Sailors about their vacation plans, long weekend events and related themes. Good leadership does not stop at "liberty call." Your Sailors look up to you and, contrary to popular belief, they do listen to you.

Enjoy your summer Shipmates. Relax, go on vacation, enjoy some outdoor sports and barbeques, but above all - be safe!

### **Academy from previous page**

Lean Six Sigma. All members of the NAVSUP Civilian Board of Directors participated in this exchange. Mr. Jeffery G. Orner, SES, NAVSUP's Executive Director, found it extremely valuable and well received. "This communication format encourages two-way dialogue between students, subject matter experts, and leadership and will be used again in the future," he emphasized.

"The Transformation Academy was extremely valuable, and the presentations were truly first rate," said Mary K. Graci, an Information Technology Specialist with the Navy Supply Information Systems Activity. "The information exchange helped me to better understand my role in Navy ERP."

## FISC Norfolk hosts Senior Navy Postal Managers Conference



Mr. Alan Hass, the NAVSUP Navy Postal Policy Director, addresses the 2005 Senior Postal Manager's Conference held in the Anchor Station CPO Club at Naval Station Norfolk. The three-day conference presented the latest trends and policies in the Navy Postal community.

## ATAC Hub holds first-ever ATAC Family Reunion

On May 20, the ATAC Hub celebrated with their first-ever ATAC Family Reunion. The event was a chance for ATAC employees - past and present - to gather and enjoy good food, entertainment, and memories. Former employees were able to catch-up with old friends, while newer employees got to hear what it was like in "the good old days."



## Bravo Zulu



SK1(SW) Deeann L. Butler of Special Materials Supply Branch, is presented with a Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, by FISC Norfolk Executive Officer Capt. Bob Carter.



DKC(SW) Thomas L. King, FISC Norfolk ATM at Sea Coordinator, is presented a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (gold star in lieu of fifth award) by FISC Norfolk Executive Officer Capt. Bob Carter.



MM3 Jessica Mae Knight, was presented with a Navy Good Conduct Award by FISC Norfolk Executive Officer Capt. Bob Carter.



SK1(SW) Chad M. Voorhes of the LSC, is presented a Letter of Commendation, by SKCS McGrif of USS Mason. The LOC is from and signed by the Commanding Officer of USS Mason.



SK2(SW) Josue Negrón is congratulated by Lt. Bob James after his recent reenlistment.

## Bravo Zulu



## Bravo Zulu



*FISC Norfolk, Det 104 Commanding Officer Casagrande congratulates SK3 Joseph Greene after presenting him with a frocking certificate. Greene was frocked to SK3 during an advancement ceremony held at Building CEP-201.*



*FISC Norfolk, Det 104 Commanding Officer Casagrande congratulates SK3 Matthew Fitzsimmons after presenting him with a frocking certificate. Fitzsimmons was frocked to SK3 during an advancement ceremony held at Building CEP-201.*



*PCCM(SW/AW) Sheila Wooden, Regional Navy Mail Center LCPO, was all smiles when she was recently frocked to Master Chief Postal Clerk.*



*PC2(SW) Frank Ellis Jr., accompanied by his wife Carla, is piped ashore for the last time at the conclusion of his retirement ceremony, held in Building C-9 on May 13.*

**Bravo Zulu**

